

The Calvin Ball Bulletin

District Two

July 2011 Edition

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Welcome!

It's a pleasure to connect with my constituents and highlight informational programs, services and area events happening throughout our District Two community and Howard County.

Know of any great community events? Please share them with my office so that I may review them for inclusion in this newsletter!

For your convenience, I have included at the end of this edition

opportunities on how you can get involved in our community through volunteering or participation on County Boards.

Please feel free to share this Bulletin with friends, neighbors, and community organizations. If you don't already receive this bulletin directly and would like to subscribe, email me at cball@howardcountymd.gov and I will be happy to add you to our distribution list!



Dr. Calvin Ball, District 2

Kill A Watt Project Launches!

Ever wonder which appliances are energy hogs and need to be replaced? Want to learn how much you're paying when lamps and appliances are left on? Now, there's an easy way to figure this out. Beginning in July, all Howard County Libraries will have monitoring devices available for loan to library card holders. It's easy to use and measures electricity usage in watts, kilowatt-hours, costs and other measures and can also measure energy use over a period of time.

The Sierra Club has donated 12 devices available through the Howard County Libraries, each for a 21-day loan. More info available online at <http://livegreenhoward.com/energy-climate/kill-a-watt/>.

TOMORROW... Access to Credit: A Financial Services Match-Up!

Meet directly with one or more national and community-based lenders on **Tuesday, July 12** from **8am-11am** at **The Other Barn, 5851 Robert Oliver Place**. Business counseling partners and support agencies will be on hand to disseminate information about small business loan products and SBA loan programs. To be eligible to attend, make sure your company is in the BBI Match-Up Database at www.bbimatch-up.com.

Thank you for your patience!

A project to replace a failing water main along Meadowridge Rd from US1 to 1,000ft north of Old Stockbridge Dr in Elkridge has begun. Construction will take place **weekdays 8am-4pm** and should be completed by early **March 2012**, weather permitting. For questions or concerns on **Capital Project W-8249**, call **Lisa Brightwell** at **410-313-3440**.

FREE Home Energy Audit Program!

Howard County's new **FREE** Home Energy Audit Program will provide free comprehensive audits to 1,500 households, an estimated savings of approximately of \$250-\$500 to households. The audit is the first step in identifying how much energy a home consumes and evaluate what measures can make the home more energy efficient while saving money on their energy bills and is funded through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants (EECBG) Program.

Applications are available online at <http://livegreenhoward.com/energy-climate/home-energy-audit/> and selections will be made via lottery weekly over the course of the next six months. If selected, you will have 48 hours from notification to participate must agree to provide a 12-month history of their energy usage, be present at the time of the audit and complete a survey six months after the audit to record the efficiency measures implemented.

For questions, email energyaudit@howardcountymd.gov.

Summer Program Offers FREE Lunches for Youth!

The Community Action Council (CAC), in partnership with Community Homes Housing of Columbia, is offering **FREE** summer lunches for youth ages 18 and younger **Monday through Friday, noon-1pm through August 5th**. This CAC Summer Food Program will be located at the Roslyn Rise Community Center, 10339 Twin Rivers Road in Columbia and the Rideout Heath-Homework Club Townhouse, 5891 Harper's Farm Road in Columbia. For more details, call **410-313-6440**.

Smart Start Your Business!

Are you an aspiring entrepreneur or interested in starting your own business? The Maryland Small Business Development Center will be hosting "Smart Start Your Business – Howard County" on **Thursday, July 14, 2011 from 8:30am-12pm** at the **Howard County Center for Business and Technology Development, 9250 Bendix Road in Columbia, MD**. At the workshop, professionals will discuss the legal forms of business, as well as issues startup companies face related to accounting, banking, finance and insurance. Attendees will receive a startup kit with all forms necessary to register a business in Maryland.

Workshop cost is \$55 and you must register by **Wednesday, July 13**. To register or for more information, visit www.centralmdsbdc.org/trainings/course.php?ID=2592&m=7&dd=0 or call **410-313-6550**.

3rd Annual Girls Night Out!

Mark your calendars for this special event on **Thursday, July 14 from 5pm-8pm in The Mall in Columbia**. Shoppers who make a \$10 donation to Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake will have access to a special VIP area! Sample delicious treats from some of the eateries, register to win unique prizes from retailers and view current fashion trends on models! Plus, registered shoppers will have access to exclusive retailers offers.

First 300 registered shoppers will receive a Girls Night Out goody bag on the night of the event. Shoppers can pre-register at Guest Services through July 13 during mall hours. Pre-registration allows shoppers to check in at any time during the event to receive their goody bag. For more details, call **410-740-6330** or visit www.themallincolumbia.com/events/3rd-annual-girls-night-out.

Charter Review Commission Meetings Continue!

On March 7, 2011, the Council approved Resolution 10-2011 appointing the 2011 Charter Review Commission consisting of 15 Howard County residents. The Commissions meetings will all be held at 9am in the Columbia Room of the George Howard Building unless otherwise noted. For more information, email charterreview@howardcountymd.gov or call **410-313-2001**. Listed below are the upcoming meeting dates:

- **July 14** – C. Vernon Gray Conference Room, George Howard Building
- **July 28**
- **August 11**
- **August 25**

The official website for the Commission can be accessed at www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/CC_CharterReviewCommiss2011.htm.

WomenFest Vendor and Exhibitor Application Deadline!

Calling all interested vendors and exhibitors for the 3rd annual WomenFest, a wellness event for women, to be held on **Thursday, September 15** from **10am-2:30pm** at the **Gary J. Arthur Community Center, 2400 Route 97 in Cooksville, MD**. Over 500 participants came out in support last year.

Applications must be received by **Friday, July 15** and are available online at www.co.ho.md.us/OA/OADocs/WomenFestExhibitors.pdf. They can be faxed to **410-313-5950** or mailed to: **WomenFest 2011, c/o Donna Tugwell, Howard County Office on Aging, 6751 Columbia Gateway Drive, Suite 211, Columbia, MD 21046**. For sponsorship information, call **Courtney Barkely** at **410-313-5957**.

Support Our Local Farmers Markets!

It's that time of year again when we can count on fresh vegetables and fruits from around Howard County. Help support our local farmers by visiting any one of the local farmers markets: East Columbia Library (Hours: **Thursdays 2-6pm**), Howard County General Hospital (Hours: **Fridays 2-6pm**), Glenwood Library (Hours: **Saturdays 9am-12:30pm**) and the Oakland Mills Village Center (Hours: **Sundays 9am-12:30pm**).

July is "Recreation and Parks" Month here in Howard County!

July the perfect time to get your family and friends together and enjoy the outdoors!

For a complete list of events and activities taking place during the month of July, visit www.co.ho.md.us/RA/P/RAP_Homepage.htm or call **410-313-4700**.

Moderate Income Housing Unit Program Accepting Applications!

Howard County Housing began accepting applications for the July open enrollment period for the County's Moderate Income Housing Unit Program. The enrollment period will end **Friday, July 29, 2011**. MIHU is an inclusionary zoning program that requires developers to sell or rent some of the new dwelling units to households of moderate income.

Housing will hold a **FREE "MIHU Buyers and Renters Workshop"** on **Tuesday, July 19** from **6-7pm** in the Gateway Building, 6751 Columbia Gateway Drive in Columbia. The workshop is open to the public and will explain the program's eligibility requirements and application process for prospective homebuyers and renters. For registration and more information, call **410-313-6497** or visit www.howardcountymd.gov/DH/CHTHC_MIHU_INFO.htm.

Long Reach Pool Parties!

Attention Long Reach residents... Come out and join us for Fun, Games, a rockin' DJ, Pizza, Sodas and Swimming! Kendall Ridge will be hosted on **Monday, July 18 6-8:30pm** and Phelps Luck on **Tuesday, July 19** from **6-8:30pm**. Long Reach residents only will be permitted and no unattended children.

Residents may only attend ONE party and reservations are required as space is limited. One non-perishable food item (no glass containers) required for each **FREE** ticket. Please check the expiration date – no expired items accepted. All food will be given to the Howard County Food Bank. Tickets available through July 15. For more info, call **410-730-8113**.

Rain Garden Workshop!

Rain Gardens are low-lying areas filled with amended soil and plants designed to infiltrate rainwater, attract butterflies and birds and keep our nearby streams healthy! Join us for a fun and informative class on **Monday, July 18** from **7pm-8:30pm** at the **University of MD Extension Office, 3300 North Ridge Rd, Suite #240 in Ellicott City, MD**. It will cover what a rain garden is, its benefits, how to build a rain garden and how to maintain it.

This event is **FREE** and open to the public on a first-come, first-served basis. However, registration is required. To register, call **410-260-8743** or email MJordan@dnr.statem.md.us.

Columbia International Day!

Columbia International Day highlights and celebrates the cultural and ethnic diversity that distinguishes Columbia. Come out and celebrate with your neighbors on **Saturday, July 23**, from **2-10pm** at Columbia's Lakefront. This event is **FREE** and open to the public and will feature live music and entertainment representing a variety of cultures, international food and crafts vendors, decorated umbrella art exhibition "Going Green and Other Colors: Savings the Environment", children's activities and much, much more!

Newcomers will also have an opportunity to receive information about our community. For more details, visit www.columbiacalendar.org/ViewItem.html?detail=0&integral=0&dropdown=1&show_stop=0&show_resources=0&dtwhen=2455766&cal_item_id=3935 or contact **Dale Wasmus** by emailing dale.wasmus@columbiaassociation.com or calling **410-715-3161**.

Child Passenger Safety Training!

The Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services is hosting a four-day child passenger safety certification program. This intensive course is offered **Tuesday July 26 through Friday, July 26** from **8am-5pm** and attendance is required for the entire course. Participants will learn about crash dynamics, injury prevention strategies, car seat selection, and installation and vehicle occupant protection. The course is taught through a combination of hands-on activities, lectures, and discussion using a wide variety of car seats and vehicle belt systems.

To register for the course, contact Safe Kids Howard County at **410-313-6090** or register online at <http://cert.safekids.org>. Participants must be able to climb into vehicles to install car seats. Cost for the course and two year Child Passenger Safety Technician certification. Participants must be 18yrs+ and training will take place at the Clarksville Volunteer Fire Dept.

National Night Out!

Howard County residents are encouraged to participate in the 28th annual National Night Out on **Tuesday, August 2, 2011**. The NNO campaign involves citizens, law enforcement agencies,, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations and local officials from the community and is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs, strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships and sends a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back!

Along with the traditional display of outdoor lights and front porch vigils, neighbors throughout Howard County celebrate NNO with a variety of events and activities including: block parties, cookouts, visits from local police and sheriff departments, parades, exhibits, flashlight walks, contests and youth programs.

Is your neighborhood interested in participating? Call **410-313-3200** and learn how you can join in on the fun!

Attention Long Reach Residents... Beautify Your Cul-De-Sacs!

Attention Long Reach residents... Landscaping Grants may be available! The Long Reach Community Association could provide you funds, up to \$200 if your plan is approved, to be used for the purchase of plant materials. Coupons will also be given for local nurseries to make those dollars stretch!

66th Annual Howard County Fair!

Come join the fun as Howard County kicks off our 65th Annual Howard County Fair **August 6-13, 2011 from 8am to 11pm**. Admission is \$5.00 for Ages 10 and up and \$2.00 for Seniors, ages 62 and up.

The Preview Day will be **August 6, 2011** with rides open from noon until 11pm. **Sunday, August 7, 2011** will be the Grand Opening with the West Friendship Volunteer Fire Dept. Parade & Baltimore's Marching Ravens! **Tuesday, August 9, 2010** is "SENIOR DAY" where those 62 and up are **FREE** all day. **Saturday, August 13, 2011** the event will conclude with a Parade of Floats.

For more information, call **410-442-1022** or visit www.howardcountyfair.org.

Oakland Mills Community Pool Party!

Attention Oakland Mills residents... Join fellow neighbors for a community pool party on **Wednesday, August 10, 2011** beginning at 6pm. Enjoy pizza, ice cream, DJ and lots of fun! Tickets are \$3 per person and available for advance purchase only by visiting The Other Barn beginning **July 11, 2011**. This event is for Oakland Mills residents ONLY and pool location will be disclosed upon ticket purchase.

For more details, call **410-730-4610**.

Art Camp for Youth!

The Columbia Art Center is offering Art Camp for grades 1-8 in one- and two-week sessions. Activities include printmaking, painting, sculpture, collage, drawing, clay and more. Art specialists will teach campers to experiment with colors, textures and mediums in a variety of theme-based projects as they travel throughout Columbia Art Center from studio to studio. Camp includes Zumba dancing and swimming. There is also a gallery show of campers' art work at the end of each two-week session.

Sessions will run through **August 19, 2011** at **The Columbia Art Center, 6100 Foreland Garth** in Columbia, MD and costs: One week session: \$235 residents, \$275 nonresidents; two weeks: \$405 resident, \$475 nonresident. Extended childcare is available. For more details, call **410-730-0075**.

11th Annual BikeAbout!

Stay home for Labor Day... Save gas and have fun in Columbia! The Columbia Association's 11th annual BikeAbout and Town Center walking tour returns and will be held on **Saturday, September 3, 2011** beginning at the **Downtown Columbia Lakefront**. Participants in the BikeAbout may begin the ride anytime between **9:30am and 10:30am**. The Town Center walking tour will begin at 10:30am.

This year's route will take riders through Town Center, Wilde Lake, Harper's Choice and Hickory Ridge, highlighting history in Harper's Choice and the Middle Patuxent Valley and traversing some of the most picturesque pathways in Hobbit's Glen and Clary's Forest. Walkers will follow a route to Oakland Mills, explore a historic cemetery and outdoor sculpture as well as the art and architecture in Town Center.

Pre-registration for BikeAbout is encouraged and forms are available

www.columbiaarchives.org/files/pdfs/11BikeRegistration.pdf, at CA Headquarters, 10221 Wincopin Circle, at the Columbia Archives, 10227 Wincopin Circle. For more info, call **Barbara Kellner** at **410-715-3103** or email Columbia.Archives@ColumbiaAssociation.com.

WomenFest 2011!

The years third annual WomenFest will be held on **Thursday, September 15, 2011** from **10am-3pm** at the **Gary J. Arthur Community Center, 2400 Route 97 in Cooksville, MD**. It focuses on women's health, wellness, fashion and beauty and will offer a day of **FREE** interactive programming designed to inspire women to live more balanced, healthy and fulfilled lives. WomenFest includes timely seminars, health screenings, and participatory exercise demos, plus an array of vendors and exhibitors.

For more info, email **Courtney Barkley** at CBarkley@howardcountymd.gov or call **410-313-5957**.

"Volunteer of the Year" Nominations Sought!

Howard County Executive Ulman and the Howard County Council are seeking nomination forms for the 2011 "Volunteer of the Year" Awards program. This program recognizes individuals (youth and adults), nonprofit groups and agencies or businesses that have demonstrated commitment and dedication to our community. The deadline for the nominations is **Friday, September 16, 2011**.

Forms are available at www.howardcountymd.gov/Portalservices/portaldocs/volunteer_2011_form.pdf and can be mailed to Howard County Government, Office of Public Information, 3430 Courthouse Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043 or faxed to 410-313-3299. All nominees will be recognized at a ceremony hosted on Wednesday, October 26 at 7pm. The event is **FREE** and open to the public.

Cultural Arts Festival in Oakland Mills!

Save the date and come out for the Cultural Arts Festival on **Saturday, October 15, 2011** from **11am-4pm** at the Oakland Mills Village Center. Vendor applications are still being accepted and are available during Summer 2011. For more details, call **Brigitta Warren, 410-730-4610** or email omcaadmin@columbiavillages.org.

2011 50+ Expo... Save the Date!

Plan to join us for the 13th annual 50+EXPO on **Friday, October 21 2011** from **9am-4pm** at **Wilde Lake High School** in Columbia, MD. Featured are more than 140 vendors and exhibitors, educational seminars, information and resources, plus all day entertainment and much more. This event is **FREE** and open to the public.

For more information, visit www.howardcountymd.gov/OA/50+expo.htm or call **Lisa Madera** at **410-313-5990** or email LMadera@howardcountymd.gov.

PlanHoward... Your County. Your Plan!

What's your Plan for Howard in 2030? The latest update of the General Plan will provide a framework for enhancing our economy, environment and quality of life and is aimed at aligning policies and actions with the challenges and opportunities of the time. Now we need your help to shape a shared vision for Howard County's future!

A Citizen Task Force has been created to provide advice on this 20 year plan. The County's Planning Board held a series of meetings including work sessions and public meetings and the draft Guidelines were submitted to the County Council on Tuesday, July 5 for consideration and adoption. You may view **Council Resolution 117-2011** online at www.co.ho.md.us/CountyCouncil/CCdocs/CR117-2011.pdf. For more details, visit <http://planhoward.org/>.

Summer Youth Employment Program!

The Community Action Council of Howard County will offer a Teen Educational Employment Program during summer 2011. The program which will be offered to high school students residing in the Columbia Homes complexes will provide environmental and energy conservation education as well as activity-based curriculum. In addition to employment opportunities, participants will be trained to install low-cost energy efficiency and conservation measures including installation of compact florescent light bulbs, low flow shower head and aerators.

Teens will also receive education on topics such as energy and water conservation, waste management (reduce, reuse and recycle), college and career counseling and health food and physical education. For more details, call **410-313-6440**.

Community Athletic Program Returns!

This summer, a mobile recreation center is coming to your neighborhood! The Community Athletic Program will operate weekdays beginning **July 5 through August 19** except for the week of July 25. Enjoy playing on the Sony PlayStation3, baseball, baggo, basketball, flag football, board games and more. You can find CAP at locations including: **Mondays** at Talbott Springs Pool (* FREE Admission to the pool 3-4pm on Monday – call **410-313-2620** for details), **Tuesdays** at Ridgely Run Community Center and **Fridays** at East Columbia Library.

Long Reach Block Party Kits!

Party with your Long Reach neighbors this summer and a block party is the perfect opportunity. Whether it's meeting new neighbors or catching up with old friends, you may be eligible for **FREE** planning kits including helpful tips. These kits are available at Stonehouse for parties between Memorial Day and Labor Day. You may even be eligible for **FREE** copying of your invitations and be eligible for a \$25 grocery store gift certificate to help you buy festive supplies. For details, call **410-730-8113**.

Operation Chill Rewards Our Youth for Performing Good Deeds!

Howard County Police are on the lookout for kids performing good deeds and rewarding youngsters with vouchers for FREE Slurpees made available through a program by 7-Eleven. Through Operation Chill, officers will reward kids with coupons for behaviors including helping others, using a crosswalk, biking with a helmet, picking up trash or participating in a positive activity in the community. Coupons can be redeemed for a small Slurpee at participating 7-Eleven stores.

HCPD has received 2,000 coupons as part of the program. The coupons will be given out by officers in northern and southern district patrol, as well as youth officers who staff the Community Athletic Program travelling recreation center. For more info, call **410-313-2236**.

You Asked For It... We Responded. Bulk Trash Pick-Up Returns!

Bulk Trash Item pick-up will resume beginning **Monday, August 1, 2011**. Items must be scheduled by calling **410-313-6444** or visiting www.HowardCountyBulkPickup.org. These items typically do not fit in trash cans and could include mattresses, chairs, sofas, dressers, tables, etc. Bulk METAL Item pick-up will begin starting **October 1, 2011** and must be scheduled in advance by calling **410-313-6444**. Items must be placed at the curb by 6am (no earlier than 6pm the night before). Please do not block mailboxes or fire hydrants. **NOTE:** It is illegal for anyone except Howard County's contractors to pickup scrap metal at the curb (Howard County Code 18.610)

Exciting Youth Opportunities to Stay Active and Involved!

One of my missions is to provide awareness of programs within Howard County that provide a positive outlet for our youth. This allows them to channel their inner talent and participate in positive activities. Listed below you will find helpful links for parents and youth.

Howard County Library www.hclibrary.org/index.php?page=22

FINALLY! Something to Do in Howard County www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=52321251379

Youth Howard County www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=47846991445&v=info&ref=ts

I encourage you to share this information with friends, families, neighbors and most importantly, your children.

Domestic Violence Center to Expand its Sexual Assault Services

The Domestic Violence Center (DVC) is pleased to announce a collaborative effort with the Howard County Police Department and the Child Advocacy Center (CAC) to expand DVS's sexual assault services with the hire of a Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Clinician who will be based at the CAC. For more details, call **410-997-0304** or visit www.dvcenter.org.

"Guaranteed Ride Home" Comes to Howard County!

A program that gives a **FREE** ride home to commuters who travel to work via mass transit, car-pooling or walking at least twice a week is coming to Howard County. "Guaranteed Ride Home" offers regular commuters a free ride home in a taxi or rental car up to four times a year and is funded by the Maryland Department of Transportation.

To be eligible to participate in the program, commuters must register online at www.commuterconnections.org or call **1-800-745-RIDE (7433)**.

Looking for a Job? Use Maryland's Workforce Exchange!

Job seekers in Maryland can now search more than 80,000 presently open and active jobs across Maryland, indicating that while Maryland comes through this national recession, our State's employers ARE hiring! For more info or to apply, visit <https://mwe.dllr.state.md.us/default.asp?SessionUID=a>

Financial Assistance Corner

We are experiencing an unprecedented economic recession and while Howard County may be consistently identified as one of the wealthiest counties in the United States, our residents and families are feeling the squeeze of this economic crisis. I receive a lot of calls to my office asking for referrals and county assistance so I wanted to take a moment and dedicate a section in my Newsletter identifying resources to help our residents save money. In addition to the information below, I encourage residents to visit our Howard County Government's website at www.co.ho.md.us/servicesresidents_financialassistance.htm. On this site, you will find resources for a variety of assistance including but not limited to child care, food, energy, water and housing.

TAX CREDITS: The most quick and efficient way to reduce your expenses is to consider the tax credits available to you as Howard County residents. For your convenience, I have listed examples below as well as their respective online application; however you can find a complete list and instructions on how to apply at www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOF_RealPropertyTaxInformation.htm or by calling 410-313-4076. Please note that some of these credits are based upon fund availability, so please contact the office directly for the most up-to-date information.

Senior Tax Credit: www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOFDOCS/SeniorCreditApp.pdf

Homeowners Tax Credit: www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/HTC-60.pdf

Homestead Tax Credit: www.dat.state.md.us

Daycare Provider Tax Credit: www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOFDOCS/Daycare.pdf

Surviving Spouse of Fallen Law Enforcement Officer or Rescue Worker:

www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOFDOCS/Emergencyworker.pdf

Disabled Law Enforcement Officer or Rescue Worker:

www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOFDOCS/DisabledPoliceRescueWorker.pdf

Community Associations Tax Credit: www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOFDOCS/CommAssoc.pdf

Trash Collection Fee Credit: www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOFDOCS/TrashFeeApp.pdf

Mentors & Tutors Wanted!

A-OK (Assisting Our Kids) Mentoring-Tutoring Program needs adult volunteers to work in Howard County schools, grades K-8, and after-school programs. A-OK works with several schools including Oakland Mills MS, Phelps Luck and Talbott Springs ES. For more info, call 410-730-2273 or email chayakaplan@verizon.net

BRAC Corner!

Are you a business owner interested in becoming a contractor or already a Defense Contractor looking for additional information? The BRAC Business Initiative (BBI) is inviting businesses interested in accessing government contracting opportunities and becoming a qualified prime or sub-contractor to register with the BBI's new Match-Up Database. A number of defense contractors and government agencies are already using the Match-Up Database to determine which BBI businesses may possess the capabilities they require. Many companies registered in the Database have already been selected to meet with large prime contractors to partner and increase business.

The database is **FREE** of charge and open to all local companies interested in generating more business within the defense community. The Match-Up Database can be found at www.bbimatchup.com and registering in the database automatically makes a company a member of the BBI.

The next BBI will be held on **August 10, 2011** from 7:30am-11am at **The Other Barn, 5851 Robert Oliver Place, #2 in Columbia, MD**. The focus will be on doing business with the Fort Meade Intelligence Community. This event is **FREE**.

For any questions on the BBI or our monthly update meetings, call **Raj Kudchadkar** at 410-313-6376 or email rkudchadkar@howardcountymd.gov.

Recycling... Do's And Don'ts!

Ever wondered what is considered recyclable and what is not? You may be surprised to find out. For a complete list, visit www.co.ho.md.us/DPW/docs/recycling_chart_web.pdf or call 410-313-6444. If it snows on your recycling day and recycling has been cancelled for the day, recyclables may be picked up on a slide schedule. For the most up-to-date information, call 410-313-7678 or visit www.howardcountymd.gov/DPW/Environmental_Homepage.htm.

Howard County Safety... Helpful Hints!

- **Experiencing an Emergency?** Dial 9-1-1
- **Want to report an incident, non-emergency?** Call 410-313-2200
- **Need to report drug activity?** Call 410-290-3784 or email ACunningham@howardcountymd.gov
- **Want to make an anonymous tip** (e.g. child abuse, violence, gangs, gambling, school incidents, underage drinking, damage to property etc.)? Call 410-313-7867 or email GangTips@howardcountymd.gov
- **Want to report gun crimes?** Call 410-313-7867 or email CToler@howardcountymd.gov.
- **Do you need Victim Assistance?** Call 410-313-3712 or email KMasterson@howardcountymd.gov
- **Interested in a FREE Home Security Survey?** Call 410-313-4795 and leave a message to make an appointment. For more info, call the Special Operations Bureau at 410-313-3758 or visit www.co.ho.md.us/police/pd_homesurvey.htm
- **Want to start a Neighborhood Watch?** Call the Community Services Section at 410-313-4780.
- **Looking to prevent Auto Theft?** Helpful tips available at www.co.ho.md.us/Police/pd_autotheft.htm
- **Want to report an animal cruelty incidence or report unwanted pets, endangered animals, etc.?** Call 410-313-2780 or visit www.howardcountymd.gov/police/animalcontrol.htm.
- **Are speeders in your neighborhood?** Consider the SMART Program initiative. Info available at www.co.ho.md.us/Police/pd_smartprogram.htm
- **Looking for personal safety tips?** Visit www.co.ho.md.us/police/pd_personalsafety.htm
- **Interested in a Police Ride-Along?** Call 410-313-2208 for an application
- **Need a HCPD Spanish line?** Call 410-313-7807.
- **Interested in volunteering with the HCPD?** Call 410-313-2255
- **Interesting in HCPD Recruitment?** Call 410-313-4273.

In addition, the Columbia Association (CA) and the Howard County Police Department (HCPD) have joined forces to enhance the safety of our residents in Columbia and Howard County at large. Every month, safety tips and valuable information will be added to their newly formed website www.howardcountysafety.org. I encourage residents to continuously check this site for helpful hints to protect yourself and property and potentially reduce crime through your efforts!

Health Care Options For You or Your Family!

The "Door to HealthCare" provides for the consolidation of applications and application processes for the numerous health programs available for those who are under/uninsured. Individuals sit down with a counselor or work alone at a kiosk to enter personal data (including: family makeUp, income, etc.) which will determine the programs for which you and/or family members are eligible. The information will quickly be transferred electronically into the proper application and the process is complete. Services provided include: MCHP, MA, PAC and the Healthy Howard Health Plan.

"The Door to HealthCare" is located to the rear of 7178 Columbia Gateway Drive in Columbia, MD. For further information, call 410-988-3737.

Medicare Patients – Looking for a Local Doctor!

The Medicare.gov site is the place to find information about Medicare. The webpage provides detailed information about the basics of Medicare, resources, preventative health care and much more. If you're looking for a local doctor who accepts Medicare, visit www.Medicare.gov/find-a-doctor. Fill in your zipcode and any preferences you might have and instantly you will be given a list of providers in your area! For more details, call 1-800-MEDICARE.

Alzheimer's Early-Stage Programs Now Available!

The Alzheimer's Early-Stage Social Club meets Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:00am-1:00pm. Pre-screening is required. To reserve your space and/or for pre-screening, call **Judy Miller** at **410-313-5441**. For more information on the Alzheimer's association, call **1-800-272-3900** or visit www.alz.org/maryland.

Recycling... Do's And Don'ts!

Ever wondered what is considered recyclable and what is not? You may be surprised to find out. For a complete list, visit www.co.ho.md.us/DPW/docs/recycling_chart_web.pdf or call **410-313-6444**. If it snows on your recycling day and recycling has been cancelled for the day, recyclables may be picked up on a slide schedule. For the most up-to-date information, call 410-313-7678 or visit www.howardcountymd.gov/DPW/Environmental_Homepage.htm.

At-Large Members Needed for Community Advisory Council!

The Community Advisory Council to the Board of Education is currently seeking at-large members for the coming school year. The council sponsors educational programming for members and provides the opportunity to study and have input into curriculum, educational policy, redistricting and budget.

The committee meets at **7:30pm** the third Tuesday of each month at the Department of Education, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD. At-large members serve a two-year term to begin in August 2011. For more information, please call **410-313-6682** or email tjmallo@verizon.net.

How and When to Use the Emergency Room!

Remember in Howard County, there are a number of affordable alternatives to the Emergency Room if you are ill (coughs, colds, ear infections, minor burns, strains/sprains), but **not** experiencing a medical emergency. These "minute clinics" are a great resource to receive medical attention on a weekend, late night, or simply when your regular physician cannot see you. Many have extended and weekend hours and do not require appointments. Most accept insurance but please call the provider/clinic for details.

For a list of providers, visit <http://www.co.ho.md.us/health/docs/urgentcarecenterslist5-2010.pdf>. For additional information, contact our Health Department online at http://www.co.ho.md.us/Health/HealthMain/Health_HomePage.htm or call **410-313-6300**.

RECYCLE your old TV's!

The Howard County Bureau of Environmental Services would like to remind residents to recycle analog TV's rather than throw them away. Options: Alpha Ridge Landfill Resident's Convenience Area open 8am-4pm Mon-Sat and Best Buy's Customer Take-Back Program. For more info, call **410-313-6444**.

Start a Neighborhood Watch Program in Your Community!

The Neighborhood Watch Program involves the joint efforts of the Howard county Police Department and the community designed to enhance neighborhood security, heighten the community's power of observation and encourage mutual assistance and concern among neighbors.

For more information, please contact the Howard County Police Department at **410-313-2200**.

View the Council's Current Legislation and Stay Informed!

The County Council is responsible for adopting laws within Howard County. The legislative progress generally follows a monthly cycle. To view legislation under consideration by the Council, please click on the following link

http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/Legislative_Pending.htm

Boards and Commissions Vacancies!

Howard County is well known for our active and informed residents which I proudly represent. Howard County Boards and Commissions bring meaning to "government of the people, by the people and for the people." They provide a vital link between our citizens and the officials who serve them.

Persons interested in applying for a Board or Commission are invited to submit a current resume along with a cover letter highlighting interests or experience which would be beneficial to the Board or Commission to which application is being made. Letters should be addressed to: **County Executive, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043.**

As vacancies occur on the various boards or commissions, interviews are scheduled with interested parties. For current vacancies and special requirements, please call **Eileen Weber**, County Executive Office at **410-313-2013**.

Commissioners Wanted for HC Commission on Disability Issues!

The Howard County Commission on Disability Issues is currently accepting applications for individuals interested in serving a five-year term as a Commissioner. To be eligible for consideration, candidates must be a Howard County resident, 18 years of age or older, have an interest in disability issues and be able to attend the Commission's meetings on the third Monday of each month from 6-8:30pm.

Applicants must submit a resume and a brief letter explaining why they want to serve on the Commission to: **Howard County Government, Department of County Administration, Attn: Susan Smith-Bauk, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043.** The names of approved candidates will be sent to the County Executive, who will then submit his recommendations to the County Council for confirmation.

For more information, call **Joyce Lehrer** at **410-313-6431** or email jlehrer@howardcountymd.gov.

In Need of Crisis Intervention?

Grassroots is a private, non-profit agency serving Howard County and Central Maryland and empowers people in crisis to make positive changes by offering professional 24-hour crisis intervention, shelter and outreach services.

Grassroots provides programs and services including a 24-hour crisis intervention hotline, Maryland Crisis Hotline, Walk-in Counseling, Mobile Crisis Team, Suicide Prevention, outreach and education, a 33-bed Family Shelter, an 18-bed Men's Shelter, a Motel Shelter, Cold Weather Shelter and Day Resource Center.

Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center, Inc. is located at 6700 Freetown Road, Columbia, MD 21044. For more information, please call **410-531-6006** or visit their website online at www.grassrootscrisis.org. The 24-hour line is **410-531-6677** and the MD Crisis Hotline is **1-800-422-0009**.

Transparency in Our Government!

If you believe there has been an instance of fraud, waste, and/or abuse in our government, we want to hear from you! Allegations of Fraud, Waste and Abuse in Howard County Government should be submitted to the Howard County Auditor's Office. All submittals are encrypted and password protected for security. We treat all allegations in a confidential matter and we'll do our very best to safeguard your identity!

To report an allegation, visit www.howardcountymd.gov/Auditor/Auditor_FraudAlertForm.asp. If you do not wish to disclose your identity, you may remain anonymous by leaving blank those fields requesting personal information. You should be aware that remaining anonymous may preclude a thorough investigation of your allegation due to insufficient information.

For more information, email hcaudit@howardcountymd.gov or call 410-313-2005.

Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Residents 62 and Older!

The Howard County Office on Aging, through Maryland Access Point (MAP), is offering Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Maryland residents ages 62 and older who are considering this as an option. The counseling is targeted to seniors who may be able to pay for their everyday expenses but are struggling to cover the costs of health care, home repairs and modifications, increased property taxes and other unexpected expenses.

To Schedule a counseling session or learn more about the costs and features of a reverse mortgage, call MAP of Howard County's toll free number: 1-800-506-5806.

How You Can Participate in Howard County Government!

This is your opportunity to stay informed and get involved! Your comments are always welcome as the County Council reviews legislation. You may testify in person or simply submit your testimony by email or fax.

All legislative public hearings will take place in the **Board of Education, Board Room A, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD 21042**. Click on the following link for the Council's calendar of meetings
http://www.co.ho.md.us/CountyCouncil/CC_Legislative_CouncilCalendar.htm

Dr. Calvin Ball
Howard County Council
District 2
3430 Courthouse Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

cball@howardcountymd.gov

http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/CC_DistrictTwo.htm

I Want to Hear From You!

The link below will navigate you to a list of upcoming Council meetings open to the public. If you have specific questions, please call the contact number listed for that meeting.

http://www.co.ho.md.us/News/HCG_Portal_PublicMeetings.htm

"Our ways of handling power differences and diverse points of view and cultures should be models of the civic life we wish to engender in our communities. Encouraging the articulation of differences, and then finding areas for collaboration, should be the norm rather than the exception."

Zelda Gamson